Dear Sylvia,

12/31/71

Glad to get the news about Mary in your 12/27. She was ill the last few days I was there. I think Buck agreed that at least part was strain, but if she is going to Europe, she must be feeling up to it because she could have postponed it. She showed no external symptoms, like cough, when I was there. In addition to hoping she makes a good recovery while doing what would ordinarily impede it, I have selfish reasons for us: I've opened up a couple of sources there that she was going to go over with care.

My file copy of the inadequate and understated thing I did in haste on Vince's speech is enclosed. I didn't want to offend Ed, who had been impressed by some of it. In notes I've made on The Pentagon Papers as I have time to read them I've carried this a bit further.

That his stuff is so sick ought not surprise. He is that sick. I've been saying it for years, as you should remember- going back to 1966 and Armoni, and to Dellinger.

Joesten has just adopted this line, embellished it a bit. Bundy was in the Sit room and did it all - on the basis of no evidence at all. He has no more need than Vince.

By the time Garrison got through explaining Vince's theory to me, it came out that the CIA is the good guys and the military, apparently something separate now, the baddies.

No rush on returning this memo. I really have no special need for it and don't mind if you keep it. I'm sorry to be inflicting poor copies, but our situation stays so bad I simply have to practise every possible economy. I do not intend abuse.

Jerry came late yesterday p.m., Howard comes Monday, and several others are scheduled. We'll be enjoying company for a while. I expect to be in NYC 1/15 and jammed. I expect Gary when I return, plus others unknown to you.

Thanks for your good wishes. May then be the reality for all.

Sincerely,